

FW: Quick readout: US call

From: "Chan, Justin" <justin.chan@ps-sp.gc.ca>
To: "Faraday-Smith, Nancy" <nancy.faraday-smith@ps-sp.gc.ca>, michael.holmes@international.gc.ca
Date: Sun, 13 Feb 2022 22:53:48 +0000

Hi Nancy, Mike,

FYI below. Dom organized a call this afternoon with his US counterpart et al; below is a quick and dirty readout – nothing significant from an NS perspective, but perhaps you may find interesting.

Justin

From: Chan, Justin
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 5:52 PM
To: Soper, Lesley <Lesley.Soper@PS-SP.GC.CA>
Cc: Welsh, Crystal <Crystal.Welsh@PS-SP.GC.CA>
Subject: Quick readout: US call

Hi Lesley,

The call with the US around 5; was mostly an exchange of views on current thinking around disincentives. The call started based on the notion of a joint Canada-US ministerial statement, but ended with an understanding that Minister Mendicino would make one and the US would react as needed. Nothing firm yet in terms of next steps – should likely expect more bilateral calls to be organized on short order throughout the week. Other notable points of discussion are as follows:

- PS:
 - o Noted continuing interest in disincentives; strong interest in gaining provincial support for ensuring that individuals who are arrested are brought forth before a judge quickly; most arrests currently end up in plea bargains with individuals released after a short-time
 - o Around 500 trucks remain in downtown Ottawa; asking truckers to vacate to outside the city with varying degrees of success; 3,000+ tickets issued to date; additional challenge is protesters still by and large acting very civil
 - o Potential for First Ministers Meeting in the short-term; likely to emphasize the benefits to Ontario's decision to impose state of emergency to other provinces
- CBSA:
 - o Most of the charges to date are mischief
 - o Looking at consequences to programs, including Trusted Traveller Program
 - o Ambassador Bridge the biggest concern – unclear if diversion to other nearby POEs are helpful; other top POEs are Coutts (AB), Emerson (MB), Pacific Highway (BC); POJs all engaged and actively working with CBP; noted that Ontario's emergency declaration has helped
- IRCC:
 - o Not looking at creating any new measures for inadmissibility, but rather robust implementation of existing ones

- o For US-bound traffic, want to know what the bar would be for US inadmissibility
- o For Canada-bound traffic, challenge is getting information to POEs before an encounter; biggest challenge would be timely, accurate, reliable information sharing in advance

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In attendance (there were others, but the principals were):

- PS (Dom, Jill W., Ryan Baker)
- CBSA (Scott Millar, Scott Harris)
- IRCC (Nicole Giles, Catherine Scott)
- DHS (Sam Vinograd, Serena Hoy, Jennifer Dakal (Counsel)
- CBP (Debbie Seguin)
- US Embassy (Ted Sobel)

I will share with Nancy Faraday-Smith and Mike Holmes for their SA.

Thanks,
Justin

Justin Chan

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